

WTU3A SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TRIPS 2024

| | |
|------------------|---|
| WHEN | 7 th March 2024 |
| WHERE | The Oxford University Museum of Natural History (OUMNH) and The Pitt River Museum |
| WHAT | <p><u>Oxford University Museum of Natural History</u> - holds an internationally-significant collection of natural history specimens and archives in a stunning example of neo-Gothic architecture. It is home to a lively programme of research, teaching and events focused on the sciences of the natural environment.</p> <p>The Museum was established in 1860 to draw together scientific studies from across the University of Oxford. Today, the award-winning Museum continues to be a place of scientific research, collecting and fieldwork, and plays host to a programme of events, exhibitions and activities for the public and school students of all ages.</p> <p>Highlights in the collections include the world's first scientifically described dinosaur – <i>Megalosaurus bucklandii</i> – and the world-famous Oxford Dodo, the only soft tissue remains of the extinct dodo.</p> <p><u>The Pitt Rivers Museum</u> - The Museum displays archaeological and ethnographic objects from all parts of the world. The General Pitt Rivers's founding gift contained more than 26,000 objects, but there are now over half a million. The extensive photographic and sound archives contain early records of great importance. Today the Museum is an active teaching department of the University of Oxford. It continues to expand its collections through donations, bequests and special purchases, as well as through students in the course of their fieldwork.</p> <p>To coincide with the release of BBC's final series of His Dark Materials this winter, fans will be able to trace Lyra's steps around the city that inspired its author, Philip Pullman, with free displays of props and costumes at the Pitt Rivers Museum, the History of Science Museum and The Story Museum.</p> |
| LOCATION | <p>Travel time – 1.5hrs, 50miles It is suggested that you use the Pear Tree Park and Ride buses.</p> <p>OUMNH entrance is on Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW.</p> <p>Once in the Museum of Natural History, Assemble at Front desk</p> <p>Pitt Rivers Museum, South Parks Rd. Oxford. OX1 3PP.</p> <p>For Pitt Rivers Museum, walk straight past the dinosaurs and take a left at the statue of Darwin. That is where you will find the Pitt Rivers' arched door entrance.</p> |
| FACILITIES | Eat The Future Café on an Upper floor of the OUMNH, providing hot meals and sandwiches. The Horse Box Café is situated on the main grass quadrangle. |
| TIMING | Own transport. Be at the museum at 11-00. |
| COSTS | Entrance to both Museums is free. (A donation would be appreciated) |
| OTHER ACTIVITIES | The Ashmolean Museum |

WTU3A SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TRIPS 2024

| | |
|------------------|---|
| WHEN | 11 th April 2024 |
| WHERE | London Museum of Water and Steam - Brentford |
| WHAT | <p>Kew Bridge Pumping Station was originally opened in 1838 by the Grand Junction Waterworks Company, following a decision to close an earlier pumping station at Chelsea due to poor water quality.</p> <p>In the years up to 1944 the site expanded, ultimately housing six steam pumping engines as well as four Allen diesel pumps and four electric pump sets. The steam engines were retired from service in 1944, although two were kept on standby until 1958, when a demonstration run of the Harvey & Co. 100 inch engine marked the final time steam power would pump drinking water at the site.</p> <p>The Museum is home to the world's largest collection of stationary steam engines. These comprise the Cornish engines, which are in their original engine houses, and the rotative engines, which have been collected by the museum trust from pumping stations across the country. One of these was based at Tringford on the Wendover canal.</p> |
| LOCATION | <p>London Museum of Water & Steam, Green Dragon Lane, Brentford, TW8 0EN</p> <p>By Coach - travel time – 1.25hrs, 46miles</p> <p>https://waterandsteam.org.uk/</p> |
| FACILITIES | <p>The Pump and Grind Coffee Shop is run by Our Barn Community. Our Barn is a local charity who works with young people with learning difficulties. The café serves good quality, reasonably priced coffee and tea, some freshly prepared light meals and a selection of glorious cakes.</p> <p>A step-free route is available throughout most of the Museum apart from the Beam engine platform. Seating is available throughout the Museum</p> |
| TIMING | <p>Coach pick-up in Weston Turville at 9-00 am for arrival by 11-00 for a guided tour.</p> <p>Leave 3-30 pm</p> |
| COSTS | Cost of the event is £40 . £15 for entry and guided tour plus coach transport of £25. |
| OTHER ACTIVITIES | None |

WTU3A SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TRIPS 2024

| | |
|------------------|--|
| WHEN | May 2 nd |
| WHERE | RAF Museum, Hendon |
| WHAT | <p>The Royal Air Force Museum London is housed in the former Hendon Aerodrome, which was an important centre for aviation between 1908 and 1968. The museum consists of several sections containing a range of permanent and temporary exhibitions.</p> <p>The Milestones of Flight exhibition was opened on the 17th December 2003, exactly 100 years after the first powered flight by Orville Wright.</p> <p>The Bomber Hall allows you to follow the development of the bomber from its first appearance in World War 1 to the highly sophisticated machines of today.</p> <p>The Historic Hangars contain five separate exhibitions each telling a different story about the RAF and its aircraft. The five sections are Whirling Rotors, Wings Over Water, The RAF Overseas, Fighters and Jets.</p> <p>The Battle of Britain Hall tells the story of the world's first decisive air battle - when the Royal Air Force stood alone against the might of the German Luftwaffe.</p> <p>The Graham-White Factory was established here in Hendon by Claude Graham-White as a flying training school. Many air displays and record breaking flights took place here before and after the aerodrome was taken over for war service in 1914.</p> |
| LOCATION | <p>Ten minutes from Junction 4 of the M1. RAF Museum London, Grahame Park Way, London, NW9 5LL. Own transport. It is situated within the Greater London ULEZ.</p> <p>Whilst most vehicles from 2006 should be compliant you can check at https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/check-your-vehicle/</p> |
| FACILITIES | Toilets. The Hendon Kitchen is a light and bright family-friendly café serving a hearty canteen style menu from quality British ingredients. From light snacks, lunches and cakes to fine teas and freshly ground coffee. Open weekdays from 10.00am |
| TIMING | Own transport. Travel by car – about 35miles, 45-60 minutes. Leave WT 9:45 for tour start at 11am |
| COSTS | <p>Cost of our Tour is £5. Entry to the Museum is free but car parking is not.</p> <p>The charges per vehicle including blue badge holders are: 0-3 hours – £7.50 per vehicle if paying onsite 3-6 hours – £10.00 per vehicle if paying onsite There is a reduction of £1 if parking booked online Payment to be made at the end of your visit, using the payment machines located in Hangar 1.</p> |
| OTHER ACTIVITIES | None |

WTU3A SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TRIPS 2024

| | |
|------------------|--|
| WHEN | June 6 th |
| WHERE | Museum of Military Medicine & Milestones Museum |
| WHAT | <p>The Military Medicine Museum (MMM) tells the story of army medicine and healthcare, human and animal, from the English Civil War to the current day, as Army Medical Services personnel continue to serve across the globe as part of the British Army.</p> <p>On arrival and after a toilet break, we will split into two groups. One group will start a guided tour whilst the other has a cup of tea and listens to a talk. Roles are then reversed.</p> <p>The Milestones Museum in Basingstoke allows you to step inside the story of our social, retail and industrial heritage and imagine what life would have been like during the Victorian era and the 1930s as you explore the life size streets, buildings, shops and vehicles, all under one roof. Be inspired by wonderful collections from vehicles, toys, domestic appliances and lots more! See how our homes developed through decades from 1930 - 1970s with our authentic room-sets. Experience our 1940s sweet shop when you purchase an old penny for £1 to buy your 2oz ration of sweets in the sweet shop. Have fun in our vintage penny arcade. Dress up in Victorian costumes. Experience our working Edwardian pub where you can enjoy a pint and a sandwich.</p> <p>Self-directed tour departing 4pm. Have something to eat and drink and explore.</p> |
| LOCATION | <p>The MMM is located at Keogh Barracks, Midchat Place Road, Midchat, Surrey, GU12 5RQ. Photographic identification is required – bring a driving licence, bus pass or passport as identities will be checked by the Army as we enter the site. Travel time – 1.5hrs, 60 miles</p> <p>The Milestones Museum is located at Churchill Leisure Park, Basingstoke RG22 6PG. Travel time around 30 minutes from MMM.</p> |
| FACILITIES | MMM - toilets. Milestones – toilets , pub, cafe |
| TIMING | By coach. Leave WT 9.00am – aim to arrive MMM by 10:30am. Leave MMM for Milestones by 12:30pm. Leave Milestones 4-4.30pm |
| COSTS | By Coach - £50 including guided tour and all entrance fees. This includes a donation of £2 per head to the MMM who charge only for the guide. |
| OTHER ACTIVITIES | None |

WTU3A SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TRIPS 2024

| | |
|------------------|---|
| WHEN | July 4th |
| WHERE | Wallingford - The Hydraulics Research Organisation |
| WHAT | <p>A visit to Wallingford to visit a Not-For-Profit Independent research and consultancy in civil engineering and environmental hydraulics. They claim to be Global leaders and independent experts in how to live and work sustainably with water, worldwide e.g providing drought forecasting models to help St Kitts adapt to reduced rainfall.</p> <p>HR Wallingford began with the creation of the Hydraulics Research Organisation (of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research) in 1947. From 1947 until 1951, the organisation was located in cramped and temporary accommodation at the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington. The Hydraulics Research Station was established at a 70 acre site at Howbery Park in 1951.</p> <p>HR Wallingford delivers practical solutions to the complex water-related challenges faced by our international clients. With a 70-year track record of achievement, our unique mix of know-how, assets and facilities includes state of the art physical modelling laboratories, a full range of numerical modelling tools and, above all, enthusiastic people with world-renowned skills and expertise. Based in the UK, HR Wallingford has a reputation for excellence and innovation, which we sustain by re-investing profits from our operations into programmes of strategic research and development.</p> <p>Our visit will include a short presentation about the organisation and its areas of work followed by a tour of the physical modelling facilities. It takes about two hours.</p> <p>[NB – HR stands for Hydrology Research and not Human Resources!!]</p> |
| LOCATION | Howbery Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8BA Travel time – 1hr, 30miles |
| FACILITIES | Toilets. Free car parking onsite. Also onsite café available to visitors |
| TIMING | Own transport. Leave WT by car. Travel time – 1hr, 30miles |
| COSTS | |
| OTHER ACTIVITIES | Wander around Wallingford. Historic market town great museum. Seen on TV as Causton in Midsomer Murders. |